

Most AAPI adults think legal immigrants give the U.S. a major economic boost

By T. TANG/L. SANDERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander adults are more likely than the overall U.S. population to view legal immigration as an asset to the country's economy and workforce, according to a new poll.

When it comes to the risks posed by illegal immigration, though, their views are similar to those of Americans overall. About 8 in 10 AAPI adults say legal immigration to the U.S. is a "major benefit" contributing to economic growth, a survey released Monday by AAPI Data and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research finds. In comparison, around 4 in 10 Americans overall felt the same way in an AP-NORC poll conducted in March. Similarly, around three-quarters of AAPI voters say skilled expertise in science and technology is a major benefit of legal immigration, compared with about 4 in 10 Americans in March.



Wang Gang, 36, front, a Chinese immigrant, talks with the driver of a car with others as they try to get a daily paid job working construction or in another trade in the Flushing neighborhood of the Queens borough of New York on May 3, 2024.

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Most AAPI adults think legal immigrants give the U.S. a major economic boost

Continued from Front

The polling results come as former President Donald Trump, with less than a month until Election Day, continues to focus on the threat of immigration in his presidential campaign against Vice President Kamala Harris. The Republican recently falsely claimed that the Federal Emergency Management Agency had no money to help Hurricane Helene survivors because it was spent on programs for undocumented immigrants. During the presidential debate last month, Trump amplified a false rumor that Haitians living legally in Springfield, Ohio, were eating people's pets. The debunked claims led to bomb threats to schools and government buildings, and drew on a long history in the U.S. of maligning immigrant communities through their food. Aldrin Villahermosa II, 25, and a registered independent in Tacoma, Washington, was "mad and annoyed" when he heard Trump target Haitians that way. "Immigrants are always targeted for non-traditional foods they eat and now targeting them with domesticated animals brings a whole new level of depravity to all those claims," Villahermosa said. He also disagrees with the



Chinese migrant Li Kai aka Khaled, an ethnic Hui Muslim, studies for a Commercial Driving License in his apartment in Flushing, New York, May 3, 2024. Li Kai came to the U.S. with his wife and two sons seeking religious freedom and a better life.

Associated Press

narrative that immigrants who are living in the U.S. illegally don't contribute, or that they take jobs away from Americans.

"One of my really good friends from college is an undocumented immigrant. Currently, he's a public school teacher, a job that doesn't pay well but has an impact on future generations," Villahermosa said. "He plays an important role in the U.S. economy, doing a job a lot of people are shying away from these days because it's low paying and often not gratifying."

But many AAPI adults view illegal immigration very differently. Only about 4 in 10 AAPI adults say immigrants who are in the country without legal permission contribute to economic growth, similar to the share

of the general adult population who say the same. Similarly, about one-third of AAPI adults see immigrants who are living in the country illegally as providing expertise of skilled workers, which is on par with the views of Americans overall. Just under half of AAPI adults say the federal government increasing security at the U.S.-Mexico border should be a "high priority." About the same share say reducing wait times for green card, or permanent legal status, applications should be a top priority.

"What this indicates is that Asian Americans or AAPIs want to see solutions both on the border, but also on all the legal migration pathways," said Karthick Ramakrishnan, founder and executive director of AAPI Data.

Many members of Asian American groups — particularly Chinese, East Indians and Filipinos — are invested in the U.S. immigration system because they often grapple with yearslong waits to sponsor a family member or bring a worker on a special visa, he added. Guann Su, 45, of Freeport, New York, came to the U.S. legally from Taiwan when he was a child and became a naturalized citizen in 1999. He wants to see other immigrants do things by the book like his family did.

"I'm not saying that all illegal immigrants are taking a shortcut and they are cheating, but I'm just saying that we must follow the rules for everybody," said Su, a Republican. "Because if we start making exceptions, that's where the problems (are) going to start." He also believes immigrants who are not in the country legally are a major risk in overloading welfare and safety net programs and increasing crime in big cities. About half of AAPI adults and Americans overall say this about such programs, and about 4 in 10 think it's a "major risk" that immigrants who are living in the country without legal permission will commit crimes, although studies have indicated that immigrants are not more likely to commit crimes than people born in the U.S.

On legal immigration, though, AAPI adults who identify with a political party are much more likely than Democrats and Republicans overall to see a major economic benefit. Around 9 in 10 AAPI Democrats say that contributions to economic growth are a "major" benefit of legal immigration, compared with about 6 in 10 Democrats overall. Similarly, about two-thirds of Republican AAPI adults think legal immigration is a major benefit for economic growth, compared with 3 in 10 Republicans overall.

Sophia Cole, 38, of St. Louis, Missouri, is a Republican who plans to vote for Trump. She agrees that legal immigrants tend to be very hardworking.

"That's just what I've seen growing up — how hard the immigrant community works, how they've helped build our foundational cities ... from the East to West Coast," Cole says. "The work ethic, the drive to be American; they really capture the American dream more so than Americans themselves."

Within the AAPI population, Harris has a slight edge over Trump in terms of who should be more trusted to address immigration issues. But part of that may be due to the fact that just a little over half of poll respondents identified as Democrats. □



In this recently undated photo shows a former President Donald Trump campaign endorsement projected on a water tower in Hanson, Mass.

Associated Press

A town in Massachusetts has sent a cease-and-desist letter to a property owner who projected a "Trump

2024" sign onto the side of a municipal water tower.

Officials said the town of Hanson does not endorse

Town fines resident who projected Trump sign onto municipal water tower

candidates, nor does it allow political signs to be displayed on municipal property. Hanson Town Administrator Lisa Green said the town first became aware that a resident was projecting the image of a political sign supporting Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump from their property onto the Hanson municipal water tower on Oct. 11. Officials have declined to

identify the individual.

"This misleads the public into believing that this activity is sanctioned by or condoned by the town," Green said in a statement Saturday.

The town said that it is issuing a fine of \$100 per day until the activity is stopped. Those fines have been accruing, town officials said. Highway Department employees have positioned a spotlight to shine on the

tower, making it harder to see the projection at night. Officials said the resident's actions could cost a significant amount of taxpayer dollars, including attorney fees, overtime to pay workers to turn the spotlight on and off each day, and the potential for having to rent or purchase stronger lighting equipment.

The \$100 per day fine will likely not cover these expenses, officials said. □

Indigenous Peoples Day celebrated with an eye on the election

By **HALLIE GOLDEN**
Associated Press

As Native Americans across the U.S. come together on Monday for Indigenous Peoples Day to celebrate their history and culture and acknowledge the ongoing challenges they face, many will do so with a focus on the election. From a voting rally in Minneapolis featuring food, games and raffles to a public talk about the Native vote at Virginia Tech, the holiday, which comes about three weeks before Election Day, will feature a wide array of events geared toward Native voter mobilization and outreach amid a strong recognition of the power of their votes. In 2020, Native voters proved decisive in the presidential election. Voter turnout on tribal land in Arizona increased dramatically compared with the previous presidential election, helping Joe Biden win a state that hadn't supported a Democratic candidate in a White House



Performers from the Native American Hoop Dance of Ballet Arizona dance at an Indigenous Peoples Day festival, Oct. 9, 2023, in Phoenix.

contest since 1996. Janeen Comenote, executive director of the National Urban Indian Family Coalition, which is involved with at least a dozen of these types of voting events across the country, said this year it's especially im-

portant to mobilize Native voters because the country is selecting the president. But she cautioned that Native people are in no way a monolith in terms of how they vote. "We're really all about just getting Native voters out

to vote, not telling them how to vote. But sort of understanding that you have a voice and you're a democracy, a democracy that we helped create," said Comenote, a citizen of the Quinault Indian Nation. In Arizona, her coalition is

Associated Press

partnering with the Phoenix Indian Center to hold a town hall Monday called "Democracy Is Indigenous: Power Of The Native Vote," which will feature speakers and performances, along with Indigenous artwork centered on democracy. In Apex, North Carolina, about 14 miles (23 kilometers) southwest of Raleigh, the coalition is working with the Triangle Native American Society for an event expected to include a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and a booth with nonpartisan voter information and giveaways. While not a federal holiday, Indigenous Peoples Day is observed by 17 states, including Washington, South Dakota and Maine, as well as Washington, D.C., according to the Pew Research Center. It typically takes place on the second Monday in October, which is the same day as the Columbus Day federal holiday. □

St. Louis schools, struggling to get kids to classes, suspend bus vendor

By **JIM SALTER**
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — As St. Louis school officials continue to grapple with getting kids to classes amid a school bus driver shortage, the district said Monday it has suspended routes operated by one vendor after determining the buses violated safety standards. A statement from St. Louis Public Schools didn't name the vendor, but the announcement came days after the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that the vendor Reed 2 Reed was operating at least seven school buses that didn't meet safety requirements. The newspaper said one bus did not have the words "School Bus" on the front and rear of the vehicle. Some didn't have an extending arm attached to the front bumper, or lacked a "Stop while bus is loading and unloading" sign

required by state law, the Post-Dispatch reported. The operator of Reed 2 Reed, Kimberly Marie Reed, declined to comment Monday when reached by phone. "This decision follows a thorough review that uncovered several instances of non-compliance with our contractual obligations and safety standards," the district said, adding it is "committed to holding all vendors accountable to the highest standards." District officials "will review all vendor compliance contracts and regulations over the next 15 days" and a public report will be issued Nov. 1, the district said. Despite the announced suspension, the Post-Dispatch reported that two unmarked buses apparently in violation of the signage requirement dropped off students Monday at Shaw Visual and Performing Arts

Elementary. A message seeking comment from the district wasn't immediately returned. It wasn't immediately clear how many children were impacted by the suspension. The district said alternative transportation was arranged for some families. Others were given gas cards to help them pay for their own transportation. School bus service in Missouri's second-largest city was thrown into chaos just as the school year was launching in August, after three vendors pulled out at the last minute. The district had already been struggling to devise a plan after Missouri Central School Bus Co. canceled its 2024-25 school year contract in March. The St. Louis district serves about 19,600 students. Unable to find a single vendor as a replacement, the solution involved a combina-

tion of using other school bus companies, metro buses, taxis and other shuttle services. Missouri Central said in a statement in March that the company sought additional money "to address unprecedented industry inflation and a nationwide school bus driver shortage." The school district said the company sought

an extra \$2 million. When the district refused, Missouri Central opted out. In February, a Black mechanic for Missouri Central said he found a noose at his workstation, which he believed was meant to send a racist message to intimidate him after an argument with a manager over his concern that some bus brakes were inadequate. □



An unmarked school bus dropped students off at Shaw Visual and Performing Arts elementary school, a St. Louis Public school, on Monday, Oct. 14, 2024, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

The pandas are coming! The pandas are coming!

By **ASHRAF KHALIL and DIDI TANG**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Zoo's long dark panda drought seems to be coming to an end.

Eleven months after the zoo said sent its three wildly popular pandas Mei Xiang, Tian Tian and their cub Xiao Qi Ji back to China, a new pair of bears is set to arrive. A pair of three-year old giant pandas, named Bao Li and Qing Bao, have left a research facility in the southwestern Chinese city of Dujiangyan and will soon be flown to Washington, according to a statement by the China Wildlife Conservation Association.

"Food prepared for the trip includes corn bread, bamboo and carrots, as well as water and medicine," the statement said, adding that the partnership will "make new contributions in protecting global biodiversity and enhance the friendship of the people from the two countries."

It's unclear exactly when the bears will arrive in Washington, but there will likely be an extended quarantine and acclimation period before they are introduced to the public.

Bao Li (precious vigor) and



Giant pandas eat bamboo at the Smithsonian's National Zoo, May 4, 2022, in Washington.

Associated Press

Qing Bao (green treasure) arrive in Washington as part of a new 10-year agreement with Chinese authorities. The previous deal expired last year, leading to some concern among American panda-lovers that Beijing was gradually pulling its furry friendship ambassadors from American zoos amid rising diplomatic tensions.

Breeding pairs in zoos in Memphis and San Diego had already returned to

China earlier and the four pandas in the Atlanta zoo left for China last week.

That anxiety turned to optimism last November when Chinese President Xi Jinping publicly stated a desire to continue the panda exchange programs. This year, a new pair of bears has been delivered to the San Diego Zoo, while another pair has been promised to San Francisco.

In Washington, National Zoo officials remained con-

spicuously silent about negotiations for a new panda agreement, but they expressed optimism about striking a new deal and launched a multimillion-dollar renovation of its panda enclosure in anticipation. Then in late May, zoo director Brandie Smith teamed up with first lady Jill Biden to announce that Bao Li and Qing Bao would be arriving by the end of this year. The Chinese announcement said the National Zoo had

sent "three experienced keepers and veterinary experts" to China to assist the transport and accompany the bears.

Zoo officials on Monday declined to confirm the Chinese announcement. Zoo spokesperson Jennifer Zoon said in an email, "For the safety of animals and staff, we are not able to confirm any details at this time." But signs at the zoo and on its social media site have heralded the planned return of the pandas and panda-themed merchandise still dominates the gift shops.

"The giant pandas are an iconic part of the Washington, D.C., story, both for locals and incoming travelers alike," said Elliott L. Ferguson, II, president and CEO of Destination DC.

"The interest and excitement associated with their return directly benefits the entire city, bringing further interest and visitors to our hotels, restaurants and other attractions."

The exact terms of the deal are still unclear; under previous 10-year agreements the Chinese government receives \$1 million per year, per bear. Any cubs born in overseas zoos are typically returned to China before they reach age four. □

Dozens of pro-Palestinian protesters arrested outside New York Stock Exchange

By **KAREN MATTHEWS**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — About 200 demonstrators protesting Israel's war in Gaza were arrested in a sit-in outside the New York Stock Exchange on Monday, police said.

The protesters chanted "Let Gaza live!" and "Up up with liberation, down down with occupation!" in front of the stock exchange's landmark building in lower Manhattan.

"The reason we're here is to demand that the U.S. government stop sending bombs to Israel and stop profiting off of Israel's genocide against Palestinians in Gaza," said Beth Miller, political director of Jew-

ish Voice for Peace, the group that organized the demonstration. "Because what's been happening for the last year is that Israel is

using U.S. bombs to massacre communities in Gaza while simultaneously weapons manufacturers on Wall Street are seeing their stock

prices skyrocket."

A handful of counterprotesters waved Israeli flags and tried to shout down the pro-Palestinian chants. None of the pro-Palestinian protesters got inside the exchange, but at least 200 made it inside a security fence on Broad Street, where they sat down and waited to be taken into custody.

A spokesperson for the exchange declined to comment on the protest.

Police arrested the protesters one by one, cuffing their hands behind their backs with plastic ties and leading them to vans. Some demonstrators went limp and were carried by three or four officers.

A police spokesperson said there were about 200 arrests. She did not have details on the charges they faced.

The protest happened a week after the world marked the anniversary of Hamas' surprise Oct. 7 attack on Israel and the start of Israel's retaliatory campaign in Gaza, which has since spread to Lebanon and beyond.

The Lebanese Red Cross said an Israeli airstrike hit an apartment building in northern Lebanon on Monday, killing at least 21 people.

There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military and it was not clear what the target was. □



Police officers detain a demonstrator protesting Israel's war against Hamas as they occupy an area outside the New York Stock Exchange, Monday, Oct. 14, 2024, in New York.

Associated Press

Canada and India expel each other's diplomats in escalating dispute over a 2023 assassination

By AIJAZ HUSSAIN, SHEIKH SAALIQ and ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Canada and India each expelled six diplomats Monday in tit-for-tat moves as part of an escalating dispute over the June 2023 assassination of a Sikh activist in Canada.

A senior Canadian government official said that Canada was expelling six Indian diplomats, including the high commissioner, after police uncovered evidence of ongoing violent criminal activity linked to the Indian government.

Shortly afterward, the Indian foreign ministry said it was expelling six Canadian diplomats, including the acting high commissioner and the deputy high commissioner. It said in a statement that the diplomats were told to leave India by the end of Saturday.

The ministry had said earlier Monday that India was withdrawing its diplomats, after rejecting Canada's diplomatic communication on Sunday that said the Indian ambassador was a "person of interest" in the assassination.

A second senior Canadian official said that Canada expelled the Indian diplomats first before they withdrew. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

Canadian Prime Minister



RCMP Commissioner Mike Duheme, left, speaks to a journalist as he concludes a news conference with Assistant Commissioner Brigitte Gauvin, right, at RCMP National Headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario, Monday, Oct. 14, 2024.

Justin Trudeau said last year that there were credible allegations that the Indian government had links to the June 2023 assassination in Canada of Sikh activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Commissioner Mike Duheme said that police have evidence allegedly tying Indian government agents to homicides and other violent acts in Canada. He declined to provide specifics.

"The team has learned a significant amount of information about the breadth and depth of criminal activ-

ity orchestrated by agents of the government of India, and consequential threats to the safety and security of Canadians and individuals living in Canada," Duheme said.

RCMP Assistant Commissioner Brigitte Gauvin called it extremely concerning.

"Indian diplomats and consular officials are to protect the interests of their nationals based in Canada and their national interest and not to be part of criminal activity or intimidation, so we take that very seriously. That is without a doubt a contravention of the Vi-

enna Convention on Diplomatic Relations," Gauvin said. India has rejected the accusation as absurd.

Nijjar, 45, was fatally shot in his pickup truck in June 2023 after he left the Sikh temple he led in the city of Surrey, British Columbia. An Indian-born citizen of Canada, he owned a plumbing business and was a leader in what remains of a once-strong movement to create an independent Sikh homeland. India designated him a terrorist in 2020, and at the time of his death had been seeking his arrest for alleged involvement in

an attack on a Hindu priest. In response to the allegations, India told Canada last year to remove 41 of its 62 diplomats in the country. Ever since, the relations between the two countries have been frosty.

The pro-Khalistan, or Sikh independence, movement is a thorny issue between India and Canada. New Delhi has repeatedly criticized Trudeau's government for being soft on supporters of the Khalistan movement who reside in Canada. The Khalistan movement is banned in India, but has support among the Sikh diaspora, particularly in Canada. India has been asking countries like Canada, Australia and the U.K. to take legal action against Sikh activists. India has particularly raised these concerns with Canada, where Sikhs make up nearly 2% of the country's population.

The Indian foreign ministry said Monday that "India reserves the right to take further steps in response to the Trudeau government's support for extremism, violence and separatism against India."

The ministry also summoned the top Canadian diplomat in New Delhi and told him that "the baseless targeting" of the Indian high commissioner, or ambassador, and other diplomats and officials in Canada "was completely unacceptable." □

Associated Press

Polish democracy leader Lech Walesa says a Trump victory would be a 'misfortune' for the world

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Polish democracy champion and former President Lech Walesa says a victory by Republican Donald Trump in this year's U.S. presidential election would bring "misfortune" to the world.

Walesa said in a short entry on Facebook on Sunday that he does not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but that the matter "is too important for the world" for him to withhold his views.

"I deeply believe that Americans will vote responsibly.

In my opinion, I am completely convinced that Trump's election WOULD BE A MIS-

FORTUNE FOR THE U.S. AND THE WORLD," he wrote, using all capital letters.

He did not explain his thinking further.

Walesa, 81, played a historic role as leader of Solidarity, a labor union that advocated for workers' rights and greater freedoms during the 1980s, when Poland was still under Soviet-backed communist rule.

He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983 for his defense of workers' rights and universal freedoms more broadly.

Solidarity ended up playing a crucial role in the peaceful collapse of communism.

Walesa went on to serve one term as president of Poland. □



Lech Walesa former President of Poland, speaks after being awarded with the "Golden Medal for services to reconciliation and understanding among peoples" in Berlin, Monday Sept. 26, 2022.

Associated Press

Kenya relocates 50 elephants to a larger park. A sign poaching is under control, officials say

By **NICHOLAS KOMU**
Associated Press

MWEA, Kenya (AP) — As a helicopter hovers close to an elephant, trying to be as steady as possible, an experienced veterinarian cautiously takes aim.

A tranquilizer dart whooshes in the air, and within minutes the giant mammal surrenders to a deep slumber as teams of wildlife experts rush to measure its vitals and ensure it's doing ok.

Kenya is suffering from a problem, albeit a good one: the elephant population in the 42-square-kilometer (16-square-mile) Mwea National Reserve, east of the capital Nairobi, has flourished from its maximum capacity of 50 to a whopping 156, overwhelming the ecosystem and requiring the relocation of about 100 of the largest land animals. It hosted 49 elephants in 1979.

According to the Kenya Wildlife Service Director General Erustus Kanga, the overpopulation in Mwea highlighted the success of conservation efforts over the last three decades.

"This shows that poaching has been low and the elephants have been able to



Members of the public watch as Kenya Wildlife Service rangers and capture team release five elephants at Aberdare National Park, located in central Kenya, Monday, Oct. 14, 2024.

Associated Press

thrive," Kanga said.

Experts started relocating 50 elephants last week to the expansive 780-square-kilometer (301-square-mile) Aberdare National Park in central Kenya. As of Monday, 44 elephants had been moved from Mwea to Aberdare, with six others scheduled for Tuesday.

Tourism Minister Rebecca Miano oversaw the translocation of five of the ele-

phants on Monday, saying: "This will go down in history as a record, as it is the biggest exercise of its kind. It is the first time we are witnessing the translocation of 50 elephants at a go."

The process started at dawn and involved a team of more than 100 wildlife specialists, with equipment ranging from specially fitted trucks to aircraft and cruisers.

A fixed-wing aircraft conducted aerial surveillance to track down herds of elephants, which naturally move in small families of about five. The craft was in constant communication with two helicopters used to herd and separate the elephants to ensure they were relocated with their family units.

Aboard one of the helicopters is a spotter, on the

lookout for elephants, and a veterinarian with a tranquilizer gun.

Once an elephant is sedated, a ground team of veterinary specialists and rangers rush to find it and clear thickets to make way for transport crews. Its vitals are monitored as another group of rangers works on lifting the massive animal, weighing hundreds of kilograms, onto specialized trucks, to be driven 120 kilometers (74 miles) to their new home.

Kanga, the wildlife service director, said the relocation also aimed at curbing human-wildlife conflict.

Boniface Mbau, a resident of the area, said: "We are very happy that the government has decided to reduce the number of elephants from the area.

Due to their high numbers, they did not have enough food in the reserve, and they ended up invading our farms."

A second phase to relocate 50 other elephants is planned, but the date has not been disclosed.

The project has cost at least 12 million Kenyan shillings (\$93,000), the wildlife agency said. □

Nile basin nations say water-sharing accord has come into force without Egypt's backing

By **RODNEY MUHUMUZA**
Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — A regional partnership of 10 countries says an agreement on the equitable use of water resources from the Nile River basin has come into force despite the notable opposition of Egypt. The legal status of the "co-operative framework" was formally confirmed by the African Union after South Sudan joined the treaty, the Nile Basin Initiative said in a statement Sunday.

Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania have ratified the accord. Egypt and Sudan declined to sign, while Congo abstained. Kenya has not yet

deposited its ratification documents with the African Union.

The accord, which came into force on Sunday, "is a

testament to our collective determination to harness the Nile River for the benefit of all, ensuring its equitable and sustainable use for

generations to come," the Nile Basin Initiative said in its statement. "This is a moment to congratulate the governments and people of the Nile riparian countries, and all partners and stakeholders, for their patience, resolve, and dedication to this cause."

The lack of ratification by Egypt and Sudan desert nations that have raised concern over any attempts to diminish their shares of Nile water means the accord will prove controversial.

Tensions in the region have increased, stemming in part from Ethiopia's construction of a \$4 billion dam on the Blue Nile, a key tribu-

tary of the Nile River. Egypt fears the dam will have a devastating effect on water and irrigation supplies downstream unless Ethiopia takes its needs into account. Ethiopia plans to use the dam to generate badly needed electricity.

The accord's rights clause states that Nile basin states "shall in their respective territories utilize the water resources of the Nile River system in an equitable and reasonable manner."

Measuring 6,695 kilometers (4160 miles), the Nile is the longest river in the world, with one tributary, the White Nile, starting in South Sudan and the other, the Blue Nile, in Ethiopia. □



A fisherman's boat sails along the River Nile in Cairo, Egypt, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011.

Associated Press

Surf's Up: Favorite places to catch waves in Aruba



ORANJESTAD – Whether you are a salt-seasoned surfer looking for a thrill, or just looking to wet your toes in a little ocean adventure, Aruba has amazing places to learn and practice surfing! Although more known for the calmer waters of Palm Beach, Eagle Beach and Mangel Halto, Aruba also has some special places to thrill your senses.

Because of strong winds and breezes, Aruba is perfect for wind and kite surfing. You will surely notice kites in the air as you drive around the wilder, rougher areas on Aruba's east side.

There are plenty of surf shop rentals to help you with your gear, and there are also a lot of tutors if you're looking to try for the first time and need a little help. These can be found around the island, and will surely come in hand if you're wanting to try a new experience!

With that said, here are Aruba's favorite surf spots!



Andicuri

Andicuri is recognized as the best place for body boarding. Because of the rough waves, this beach is better suited for those with more experience in surfing. However, the beach with two bluffs – one on each side – is worth a visit, if only to watch the exciting show presented by the surfers.

To go to Andicuri, you will need a 4x4 vehicle and drive from the ex-Natural Bridge Center. Alternatively, you can make it an adventure by going on a hike! The scenery is unique and beautiful on its own.

Reaching Andicuri Beach can be an adventure in itself, as it can be difficult to find and is only accessible by 4x4 vehicle or walking from the ex-Natural Bridge center, but the impressive scenery makes it all worthwhile!

Arashi

Arashi, a beach located close to the California Lighthouse, is a good spot for learning and having fun – if you're lucky! The waves at Arashi are usually calm, but with just the

right weather, a swell forms attracting all the local surfers to the area.

Boca Grandi

Boca Grandi is at the most southern spot in Aruba, and is a popu-

lar spot with experienced surfers. Close to the famous Red Anchor and our beloved Sunrise City – San Nicolas, a trip to Boca Grandi can easily turn into an all-day trip to this area of the island. With a beautiful beach (although it is not allowed to swim here, because of strong currents), you can enjoy a relaxing time combing the beach for driftwood, coral, and little crabs and snails.

Hadicurari

Known locally as Fisherman's Hut, here is where you will find most of the action for surfers in Aruba. With a variety of surf shops and schools in this area, you will find it easy to get in on the action. Hadicurari is also the site of the Aruba Hi Winds World Challenge, which takes place usually in June/July, and it is the largest windsurfing competition in the Caribbean!

Malmok

If you're a beginner, this is your spot. There are also various shops to rent gear and receive lessons, facilitating learning and just trying out a new experience. The beach is also popular for paddleboarding and other watersport activities. □



Paseo Herencia; An exciting destination for leisure and entertainment



NOORD — Paseo Herencia, situated in the heart of Palm Beach and within walking distance from the high-rise hotels, beckons with a diverse array of shopping, dining, and entertainment options in an outdoor setting.

Shopping

Paseo Herencia presents a captivating selection of stores catering to various preferences, encompassing beachwear, apparel, fragrances, footwear, jewelry, keepsakes, and much more. Unwind at Maggy's, indulging in their salon services while exploring a range of beauty products. For a memorable gift crafted from natural ingredients, explore Aruba Aloe's offerings. Iconic brands like Tommy Hilfiger, Calvin Klein, Aldo, Carmen Steffens, Nike, and Pandora stand among the favorites.

Dining

Embark on a global culinary journey at Paseo Herencia's diverse array of restaurants, each offering a unique dining experience. From the vibrant flavors of Iguana Cantina's Mexican cuisine to the Spanish elegance of Xixon Spanish Restaurant, the innovative fusion of Pizza and Sushi at Fusion Cuisine, the grilled delights of Skewers Grill, the comfort of The Lazy Turtle, the creativity at Drunk's Denial, and the seafood sensation of Sexy Shrimps Bar, and the familiar warmth of Starbucks, indulge in an unforgettable gastronomic adventure that spans the world's finest cuisines, all within the charming ambiance of our outdoor center.

VIP Cinema

Indulge in an unparalleled cinematic experience at Caribbean Cinemas VIP, nestled on Paseo Herencia's second floor. Relax in supremely comfortable reclining seats while enjoying movies on high-quality screens with state-of-the-art projection and 7.1 Dolby surround sound. Don't forget to relish the delectable buttery popcorn.

Entertainment

Paseo Herencia offers live entertainment from Monday to Friday at 8pm on the center stage, as well as cap-



tivating nightly watershows at 7:30pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm. Thrill-seekers can explore the Airsoft experience, located behind The Lazy Turtle. For picture-perfect moments, capture Instagram-worthy shots at the Angel Wings installation between Pandora and Free Spirit, or amidst the Flying mosaic hearts behind King Churros. There's more fun in store with delightful kids' activities, including a Kid's carousel and train ride, available every day from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Parking is complimentary for up to two hours when shopping, dining, or enjoying a movie at Paseo Herencia. Simply present your purchase receipt to the parking cashier. For more details on specials and events, visit the Paseo Herencia website at www.paseoherencia.com.



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A quick snack for the road: Learn how to make the Aruban Pastechi!

(Oranjestad)—If you ever been to Aruba before, you probably heard of (and even tried) the Aruban Pastechi. Beloved by young and old, this tasty treat is a staple for party snacks, a quick lunch or even breakfast!

Here's how to make the Pastechi dough.

Ingredients:

4 cups of wheat flour
1 tbsp baking powder (if using self-rising flour, omit baking powder)
1 tsp salt
1 tbsp sugar
0.5 cup of melted butter
1 cup water
1 egg

Directions:

Sift your flour into a bowl and add all the dry ingredients before giving it a quick mix. Next add the butter, water and egg and mix until thoroughly combined. At this point, your dough will start to get sticky; time for an arm workout. Knead your dough into the

bowl you are using or on a clean surface with some flour lightly dusted until its surface is smooth. You'll know your dough is ready when it doesn't stick to your hands or the surface on which you're kneading it. Let your dough rest covered for 15-20 minutes.

After resting, divide your dough into approximately 100 gram balls and roll it flat with a rolling pin. The thickness of the pastechi depends on your taste, but the average thinness would be around 1/4 inch or so.

Filling for the pastechis varies according to your taste. The easiest and most common filling you'll find in Aruba is a simple cheese filling. For this, we usually use shredded Gouda, but feel free to use any cheese that melts well when frying the pastry.

Place the filling on your rolled out piece of dough, fold it in half and pinch the sides shut with a fork. If you have a folding tool, feel free to



use it for this process. Your pastechi is ready for the fryer!

If you want to store some pastechis for later use, you can freeze them. A good tip is to place a piece of wax paper in between each pastechi if you are to store them on top of one another. This way the pastechis don't stick to each other when defrosting.

Here in Aruba we enjoy pastechi at any time of the day, but it has become almost tradition to eat pastechis for breakfast on the way to work. Many roadside snack trucks sell pastechi from early morning to noon, and offer a variety of fillings like cheese; ham and cheese; ground beef and pulled chicken to name a few. □



(Oranjestad)—Today we celebrate Valentine's Day, and what can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset. Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House

Of course, being one of the highest point easily acces-

sible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach

Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either

Best spots to view the sunset

Manchebo Beach or at Eagle Beach, which stretch along the entire western coast of the island starting from behind Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort up to the Amsterdam Manor roundabout. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!*

Arashi Beach

Another beach that has to be considered as another

great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple hue.

Hooiberg Hill

These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to get your daily workout in

and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation

If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back.

Editor's note: This spot may be my personal favorite, if you couldn't already tell... □

Did you know about... Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 2)

(Oranjestad)—In Yesterday's issue, we've provided some basic rules when driving on the four-lane highways and roundabouts on the island. Today, we want to offer you more tips and tricks when it comes to driving on the roads and highways of Aruba.

Speed limit in certain areas

As mentioned in yesterday's issue, the legal minimum and maximum speed limit on the island is 50 and 80 km/h respectively. However, there are some areas where it is mandated to drive up to a certain speed. This is always indicated by a circular traffic sign with red border and the number 50 on it. Signs like these are always paired

by a similar sign with the number crossed out further down the road. This means that the mandate for this speed is now over; you may increase your velocity. Red borders on traffic sign—whether it's a circle or triangle—usually signal a warning, prohibition or preference.

Besides the "50" sign, you may also

encounter a traffic sign that says "bebouwde kom". These can be found in San Nicolas and Oranjestad. Bebouwde kom signs are rectangular and blue, and essentially tell you that you are in a heavily inhabited area. The maximum speed limit in a bebouwde kom is 50 km/h. Just like the previous pair, bebouwde kom signs are also paired with a similar sign crossed out.

Priority signs

On the main roads of Aruba (not the highways), you may see a yellow, squared sign with a white border. This sign tells you that on this road, you have priority and all other traffic should yield to you. This sign can be seen in Savaneta for example. So, if you are driving on the main road in Savaneta going to San Nicolas, you are driving on a single long road, and other cars that want to get on this main road or cross it, either from an intersection or from a dirt road, must all wait until traffic on the main road is clear. In other words, you do not have to stop for them. This sign too has a counter part that indicates that your priority is over.

Another priority sign you may encounter is a triangle sign with a red border and something that looks like a cross. You'll see this sign in an intersection. The general rule of thumb for crossing an intersection that do not contain traffic lights, roundabouts, sign or arrows on the road, is to always yield for traffic on your right. However, if you encounter this sign on your side of the intersection, you have priority over the other cars, even the one on your right.

However, be careful not to confuse this sign with a similar up-side down triangle, also found on intersections. This sign is a prohibition sign, telling you that you have to stop and give other cars priority. Of course you also have a "stop" sign that mean the same thing. The stop sign is generally used for tricky intersections with minimal view of opposite incoming traffic.

These are some of the basic rules that you would have to know if you decide to drive on the island. These are of course other traffic signs, and we recommend you visit aruba-travelguide.com for an extensive overview of all traffic signs used on Aruba. □

Picture credits: aruba-travelguide.com



bebouwde kom



end bebouwde kom



end priority



end speed limit



intersection priority



priority



speed limit



stop sign



triangle stop sign

Meet Aruba's biggest hero Boy Ecury

(Oranjestad)—This past May 4th, Aruba as well as The Netherlands commemorated those who sadly perished during the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the frontline during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Netherlands by his father when he was



15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam first-hand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion groups that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multi-

ple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lanoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities. Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranje-hotel" prison in Scheveningen, The



Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old.

Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.

Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor." □

Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.

Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina",

and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingiling box."



Source: "E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao" by

Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Once more
1 Cattle spread
6 Entrance support hall
11 Corn-husker city
12 Goofy supply

- DOWN**
- 1 Aitaire's frequent partner
2 Activist Bloomer
3 Stadium in Washing-ton, D.C.
4 Letter before psi
5 Chopper
6 Bran offering
7 Binary digit
8 Stadium in New York
9 Salad green
10 Took it easy
17 Non-believer
23 Rap's Dr. —
24 Party staple
26 Geolo-gist's concern
27 Split start
28 Saws
30 Threat ender
31 Goes by
33 Penalized
39 "— had it!"
41 French friend

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-22

CRYPTOQUOTE

J CBHD WDBLGDR FHDL OCD

QDBLT OCBO ZCDG FGD'T AJGR

JT ABRD SU, OCJT RJAJGJTCDT

MDBL. — LFTB UBLIT

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SOMETIMES THE ONLY WAY TO GET CLOSURE IS BY ACCEPTING THAT YOU'LL NEVER GET IT. — JOHN MARK GREEN

ELECT BLITZ
RETRO LITHE
SETUP OLSEN
ADSPOT
TAJ ALP HIP
ACADIA DORA
FAMILY NAMES
FREE FOMENT
YES WON GEE
MARACA
INDEX GOMAD
QUOTE OPERA
STEED NASTY

Yesterday's answer

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

7 5 4 8
2 6 9 8
8 2 9 5 4
4 3 7 2
7 3 2 5 1 9 8
7 2 4
8 9
1 2 5 4 8 9 7 3

Difficulty: ★★

10/15

Answer to previous puzzle

8	5	3	2	4	1	6	7	9
1	2	7	9	6	8	4	5	3
9	6	4	3	7	5	1	8	2
3	9	8	1	5	4	7	2	6
2	4	5	7	3	6	9	1	8
7	1	6	8	9	2	5	3	4
4	3	1	6	2	7	8	9	5
6	8	9	5	1	3	2	4	7
5	7	2	4	8	9	3	6	1

Difficulty: ★

10/14

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

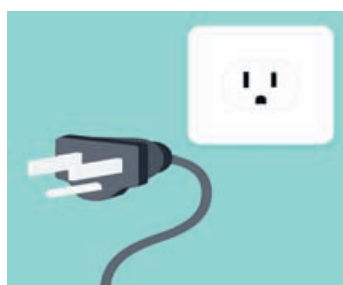
Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier, mostly around 2pm.

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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Skeletons and skulls sit in graves at an excavation site of a 10th century Viking burial ground in Aasum, Denmark, Monday, Oct. 7, 2024.

Associated Press

In Denmark, 50 well-preserved Viking Age skeletons have been unearthed, a rare discovery

By **JAMES BROOKS**
Associated Press

AASUM, Denmark (AP) — In a village in central Denmark, archeologists made a landmark discovery that could hold important clues to the Viking era: a burial ground, containing some 50 “exceptionally well-preserved” skeletons. “This is such an exciting find because we found these skeletons that are so very, very well preserved,” said archeologist Michael Borre Lundø, who led the six-month dig. “Normally, we would be lucky to find a few teeth in the graves, but here we have entire skeletons.”

The skeletons were preserved thanks to favorable soil chemistry, particularly chalk and high water levels, experts from Museum Odense said. The site was discovered last year during a routine survey, ahead of power line renovation work on the outskirts of the village of Aasum, 5 kilometers (3 miles), northeast of Odense, □

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Christopher Reeve's kids wanted to be 'honest, raw and vulnerable' in new documentary 'Super/Man'

By **BROOKE LEFFERTS**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Christopher Reeve's children say they made a point to include all the complexities of their father's life his strengths and weaknesses in the new documentary "Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story" because that's what he would have wanted.

The film includes family home videos, mixed with interviews and movie clips of Reeve, who famously played Superman in four films, in addition to other acting and directing roles later in his career. Reeve's three children, Matthew, Alexandra and Will Reeve, say there were no restrictions on topics or video used in their father's story. "He wouldn't have wanted to be viewed through rose-colored glasses. He would want art and cinema and factual, comprehensive storytelling and that's what he got," Reeve's youngest son, Will told The Associated Press. "It's important to us to be honest and raw and vulnerable and give a 360-degree view of a very human life, of a very human family."

Known as the Man of Steel, Reeve an avid athlete, sailor, skier and horseman was nearly killed in a 1995 horse-



Matthew Reeve, from left, Alexandra Reeve Givens, and Will Reeve, children of the late actor Christopher Reeve, appear at the premiere of "Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story" at the Museum of Modern Art in New York on Sept. 18, 2024.

riding accident that left him paralyzed for the rest of his life. He used his platform to become an advocate for people with disabilities, starting a foundation in his name.

Directors Ian Bonhôte and Peter Ettedgui were able to access some never-before-seen home movies of the Reeve family before and after the accident. "When we started to make the film, one of the things they were adamant (about) is that they will share everything. They will share the archive, but they will share their emotional states ...

everything," Bonhôte said. "That was the first time they were going to do it, and they were going to go all out." Reeve had recorded audio of his memoir before he died in 2004, so his narration is used in parts, adding to the film's intimacy. The actor became a father to Matthew and Alexandra with his first partner, Gae Exton, and the family was living in the U.K. before Reeve decided he needed a break and moved back to the U.S. alone. Exton, who is interviewed in the film, shares compelling memories of that time, and Mat-

thew and Alexandra admit their father was not around regularly during their childhood.

Other interviews include Susan Sarandon and Glenn Close, who befriended Reeve after he graduated from the Julliard School and started taking on acting roles in New York. Close suggests in the film that Reeve and Robin Williams Julliard classmates and close friends had a deep connection and that if Reeve were still alive, Williams likely would be too. Reeve's kids say the process of going through their

Associated Press

archives and being interviewed for the film gave them a new perspective and appreciation of their dad. Will Reeve was only 12 when his father died. His mother, Dana, was diagnosed with cancer and died less than 18 months later. Now an ABC News correspondent, Reeve says he was fortunate to have had family and close friends help raise him and considers himself "pretty well-adjusted." "There's a scenario in which things could have turned out differently," Will Reeve said. "But because of the values instilled in us by our parents, because of the way that they let us into their lives, the good and the bad, the joyous and the tragic ... that prepared us for life's difficulties and life's joys." One thing that impressed the directors most in their research was Reeve's commitment to help others even after he was physically limited in his own life. After becoming a quadriplegic, Reeve and his family were shocked at the lack of resources for people with disabilities and started the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation to help improve quality of life and fund research for a cure for people with spinal cord injuries. □

Jason Mott follows award-winning meta-novel with novel about award-winning author



This 2022 photo released by Dutton shows Jason Mott, author of "Hell of a Book." Dutton announced Thursday that it has reached a deal with Mott for his next book "People Like Us," scheduled for release next fall.

Associated Press

By **HILLEL ITALIE**
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason Mott's first novel since "Hell of a Book" is a kind of meta-sequel to his award-winning meta-narrative about a Black author's haunting promotional tour.

The Penguin Random House imprint Dutton announced Thursday that it has reached a deal with Mott for "People Like Us," in which a "prize-winning Black author" embarks on a global book tour that finds him experiencing everything from invisibility and time travel to sea monsters and peacocks. "Hell of a Book," published in 2021, won the National Book Award for fiction and was chosen for Jenna Bush Hager's "Today" show book club.

"People Like Us" is scheduled for release

next fall.

"'People Like Us' originally began as a memoir. I was attempting to sort through some of the impactful experiences I had both as an author and as a teacher recently, and over the last few years," Mott said in a statement. "After a few false starts, I came to realize that, for me, exploring truth requires the framework of fiction. When I returned to the page with that understanding about myself and how I try to create art, I found the characters from 'Hell Of A Book' waiting for me, with new heartaches and joys they wanted to share."

Mott's other books include the novels "The Returned" and "The Calling" and poetry collection "We Call This Thing Between Us Love." □

The NBA's parity era is here, with 6 champions in 6 years. Now Boston will try to buck that trend

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

It was a few minutes after Denver's reign as NBA champion had come to an end last spring. The Minnesota Timberwolves were celebrating, their music and screams loud enough to be heard inside the room where Nuggets coach Michael Malone was somberly going through his final postgame news conference of the season.

In that moment, it was official: Another season was going by without the NBA having a back-to-back champion, and Malone was left to state what has become obvious.

"It is hard. It is hard. It is hard to repeat," Malone said. "It's hard to win."

He's right. And there's never been an era in NBA history where it's been harder. Here are the last six NBA champions, in order: Toronto, the Los Angeles Lakers, Milwaukee, Golden State, Denver and now Boston. That's six different title-winning franchises in six seasons, a run of parity that the league has seen only once before nearly a half-century ago.

The days of dynasties may be on hold for now, replaced by a time when, for a variety of reasons, it's



Boston Celtics Jrue Holiday, left, and Boston Celtics Jaylen Brown stand during a preseason game between Boston Celtics and Denver Nuggets in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Friday, Oct. 4, 2024.

more difficult than usual to get to the NBA mountaintop and stay there. It's the Celtics' turn to try to buck that trend.

"It's always hard to win one," said Boston guard Jrue Holiday, who won a title with Milwaukee in 2021 and was part of the Bucks team that was ousted in Round 2 a year later. "But then to win back-to-back is even harder."

The NBA doesn't seem to mind. This is the Parity Era

and the current collective bargaining agreement figures to make it even tougher for teams to be dynastic a swift change from the four-year run spanning 2015 through 2018 when Cleveland and Golden State got to the finals annually.

In simple terms, the more that teams spend, the harder it is now to make moves, especially moves involving big-contract players. The latest CBA, which went into effect last year, includes

two aprons over the luxury tax figure. Go over the first apron, your roster flexibility is hampered. Go over the second one, and it's severely hampered. It could be argued there haven't been rule changes this significant since the league changed the lottery odds and added a play-in tournament to discourage tanking.

An example: it recently took Minnesota and New York several days to com-

plete a deal a couple weeks ago after agreeing on the parameters Karl-Anthony Towns going to the Knicks, Julius Randle and Donte DiVencenzo going to the Wolves because the financial particulars needed to be very precise.

"The new rules ... some of the consequences are unintended, quite frankly," Wolves President of Basketball Operations Tim Connelly was quoted by ESPN saying. "I don't know if anyone intended to make it this challenging to make moves, to make trades when you're above certain aprons."

No, that's exactly what the NBA wanted.

"I don't want to say nothing is lost, but to me, I don't think our system, by definition, will prevent repeat championships," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "I think that, yes, it makes it less likely, but we didn't set out to say, 'Let's make sure there's a different champion every year.' I think, again, it goes more to equality of opportunity. But I think in the same vein, I think there's real incentive for players to stay in markets." Nobody would say all 30 teams enter this season with a realistic title chance. □

Associated Press

MLB playoffs averaging 3.33 million viewers through division series, an 18% increase over last year

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball's postseason is averaging 3.33 million viewers going into the league championship series, an 18% increase over last year's average of 2.82 million.

The division series averaged 3.56 million viewers for 18 games, a 14% increase from last year.

The increases in the division round ratings can be attributed to two series going the distance along with both New York teams, the Los Angeles Dodgers and Philadelphia Phillies being

involved.

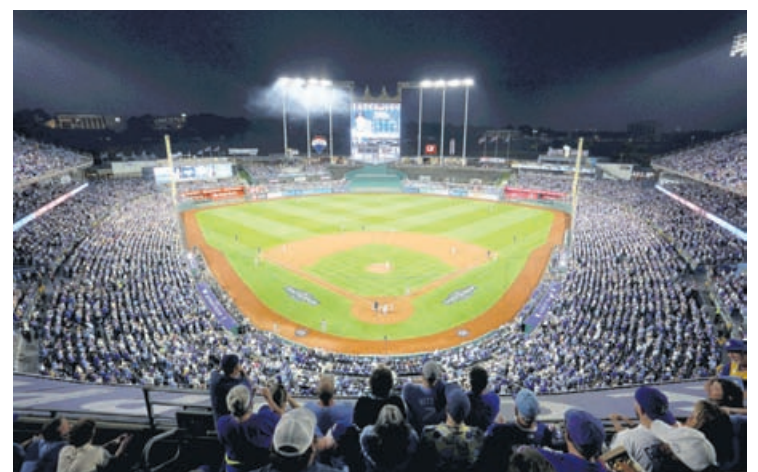
Friday's night NLDS Game 5 between the Dodgers and San Diego Padres averaged 7.5 million on Fox, Fox Deportes and streaming, the most-watched division series game since 2017.

Saturday afternoon's deciding game between the Cleveland Guardians and Detroit Tigers averaged 3.42 million on TBS, the most-watched division series matchup in a day game window (pre-4 p.m. start) in 17 years.

The game was originally slated to be played at

night, but was moved up to the afternoon due to the threat of inclement weather. Fox and FS1 averaged 4.09 million for the National League games, their highest numbers since postseason baseball began airing on FS1 in 2014. Fox also benefitted from the Phillies-Mets being the other series. The Mets advanced in four games.

TNT Sports averaged 3 million for the ALDS series games on TBS and TNT. The Yankees beat Kansas City in four games in the other series. □



The New York Yankees and Kansas City Royals play in Game 4 of an American League Division Series as seen in this general view of Kauffman Stadium Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, in Kansas City, Mo.

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Analysis: Offenses have their way in Week 6 with highest scoring output of the season

By **ROB MAADDI**

AP Pro Football Writer
Baker Mayfield and the Buccaneers moved the ball at will against the Saints. Jared Goff and the Lions were unstoppable in Dallas. The Texans, Falcons, Packers and Ravens also put up big numbers.

Offenses dominated in Week 6.

Nine teams scored at least 30 points, including Detroit's 47 against the undermanned Cowboys and Tampa Bay's 51-point outburst in New Orleans that could've reached the 60s if Mayfield hadn't thrown three interceptions. It was the second-most points the Buccaneers have ever scored.

"That was a full group effort on offense," Mayfield said. With the Bills-Jets matchup remaining on Monday night, the combined average of 49.7 points per game this week is the most this season. Six teams had 400 total yards of offense and five more had 350.

Tampa Bay (4-2) led the way with a franchise-record 594 total yards, the second-most



Detroit Lions' Jameson Williams (9), David Montgomery (5) and Tim Patrick (17) celebrate after Williams caught a touchdown pass in the second half of an NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, Texas, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024.

Associated Press

the Saints have ever allowed. Mayfield had 325 yards passing and four touchdowns and Sean Tucker ran for 136. The Buccaneers became just the fifth team in NFL history to have at least 300 yards passing and 275 yards rushing in a game.

"Put up 51 points and we had three turnovers," wide receiver Chris Godwin said. "We can run the ball, we can throw the ball — obviously we are at our best when we can do both in the same game.

Just having that ability to play in multiple ways and win in multiple ways is going to be big for us as we go down the season, because we've got a tough schedule."

Detroit had such an easy time facing a defense missing Micah Parsons and DeMarcus Lawrence that offensive coordinator Ben Johnson tried a few times to get an offensive lineman to score a touchdown.

Tackle-eligible Taylor Decker couldn't grab Goff's 2-yard

toss in the end zone. All-Pro right tackle Penei Sewell got a lateral off a hook-and-ladder play and ran to the Cowboys 3 only to have it negated by penalty.

Goff threw for 315 yards and three scores and the Lions (4-1) racked up 492 yards, handing Dallas (3-3) its third straight home loss.

"Things are starting to come together a little bit," Goff said. "First two weeks trying to find our rhythm and we've found it."

With many teams resting starters or barely playing them in the preseason, it took a few weeks for offenses to start clicking. After teams averaged 45.8 points per game in Week 1, that number dipped to 39.6 and 41.6 the next two weeks before beginning to rise steadily.

Passing numbers were down early in the season. Not anymore.

Eight quarterbacks have thrown for 250 yards this week, including four 300-yard games.

Three QBs had four TD passes and four had three.

"There's always room for improvement," Ravens two-time NFL MVP Lamar Jackson said after Baltimore's 30-23 win over Washington. "It's only the sixth game. We still had drives that we should've put points on the board."

Jackson threw for 323 yards, Derrick Henry ran for 132 and the Ravens (4-2) had 484 total yards.

C.J. Stroud tossed three TD passes in Houston's 41-21 win at New England as the Texans (5-1) spoiled Drake Maye's first start. Kirk Cousins followed up a 509-yard effort with only 225 yards passing in Atlanta's 38-20 victory at Carolina. But the Falcons (4-2) ran for 198 yards behind Tyler Allgeier (105) and Bijan Robinson (95).

The Bears finished on a roll, scoring four straight TDs before missing a field goal in a 35-16 win over the Jaguars in London.

Caleb Williams has his third straight game with a 100-plus passer rating. He completed 79.3% of his passes for 226 yards and four TDs for Chicago (4-2). □



Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa, center, looks on from the sideline during the first half of an NFL football game against the Seattle Seahawks, Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024, in Seattle.

Associated Press

By **ALANIS THAMES**
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. (AP)
— Dolphins quarterback

Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa expected to play again this season

Tua Tagovailoa is expected to play football again in 2024 after being diagnosed with his third concussion in two years earlier this season. Coach Mike McDaniel said Monday that Tagovailoa had "positive" meetings with neurologists during the Dolphins bye week, though he remains in concussion protocol and on injured reserve.

"I do expect him to see him playing football in 2024," McDaniel said for the first

time since Tagovailoa's injury, "but where that is exactly, we'll let the process continue." Tagovailoa isn't eligible to return until Miami's game against the Arizona Cardinals in Week 8, and McDaniel said the quarterback will continue consulting experts to determine when it will be safe for him to play.

Tagovailoa got hurt in a Week 2 game against Buffalo when he collided with Bills defensive back Damar

Hamlin. Tagovailoa ran for a first down and then initiated the contact by lowering his shoulder into Hamlin instead of sliding. He has a history of head injuries since entering the NFL, having been diagnosed with two in 2022 and suffering another scary hit to the head that season, which led to changes in the NFL's concussion rules. McDaniel has cautioned against speculating on Tagovailoa's future since his latest injury. □